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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/076,440	02/19/2002	David A. Caughey	132-03 US	9855
25319	7590	03/23/2005	EXAMINER	
FREEDMAN & ASSOCIATES 117 CENTREPOINTE DRIVE SUITE 350 NEPEAN, ONTARIO, K2G 5X3 CANADA			AILES, BENJAMIN A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2142	
DATE MAILED: 03/23/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/076,440

Applicant(s)

CAUGHEY, DAVID A.

Examiner

Benjamin A Ailes

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 2/19/2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 have been examined.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because line 1 states, "Disclosed is a method..." Phrase "Disclosed is" should be removed from the abstract because it is implied. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

4. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: The claim currently states, "...A method according to 10 absent..." Examiner suggests the claim

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be amended to state "A method according to claim 10 absent..." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Friskel (U.S. 6,839,737), hereinafter referred to as Friskel.

7. Regarding claim 1, Friskel discloses a method of adding a new contact to an electronic contact information database comprising the steps of:

a) recognizing data stored in an electronic contact information database of a user system as data relating to contact information of a new contact (Fig. 4 and col. 4, lines 3-7);

b) extracting from the stored data a contact destination of the new contact (col. 4, lines 3-7);

c) automatically sending a message including a request for additional contact information to the contact destination of the new contact (col. 4, lines 3-7, Fig. 7, col. 6, lines 53-56, and col. 8, lines 3-10); and

d) upon receiving a return message including additional contact information from the new contact, automatically updating the contact information database with the additional contact information (col. 4, lines 8-20, specifically lines 12-14 and col. 6, lines 10-15).

8. Regarding claim 2, in accordance with claim 1, Frisket discloses the method wherein the stored data is provided manually by the user (col. 6, lines 17-20 and 28-32).

9. Regarding claim 3, in accordance with claim 1, Frisket discloses the method wherein the stored data is provided automatically by an electronic message application in execution on the user system (col. 4, lines 8-20, specifically lines 12-14 and col. 6, lines 10-15).

10. Regarding claim 4, in accordance with claim 1, Frisket discloses the method wherein the message is an electronic message and wherein step d) includes the step of: automatically extracting the additional contact information from the received return electronic message (col. 7, lines 16-30, specifically lines 31-33).

11. Regarding claim 5, in accordance with claim 4, Frisket discloses the method wherein the user is a subscriber to a contact list update service and wherein the new contact is other than a subscriber to the contact list update service (col. 5, lines 50-65, specifically lines 54-59).

12. Regarding claim 6, in accordance with claim 5, Frisket discloses the method comprising the steps of:

- verifying the authenticity of each electronic message received at a system of the new contact (col. 6, line 63 – col. 7, line 30, specifically col. 7, lines 8-11).

13. Regarding claim 7, in accordance with claim 6, Frisket discloses the method wherein the electronic message comprises message body text containing contact information for at least one contact information field for verification (col. 7, lines 31-39).

14. Regarding claim 8, in accordance with claim 6, Frisket discloses the method wherein the return message is generated by an automated reply filter in execution on the contact system using contact information retrieved from a memory accessible to the automated reply filter (col. 6, line 63 – col. 7, line 3).

15. Regarding claim 9, Frisket discloses a method of adding a new contact to an electronic contact information database of a user system comprising the steps of:

- using an electronic message application in execution on a system of the new contact, receiving an electronic message transmitted from the user system via a communication network (col. 4, lines 8-20, specifically lines 12-14 and col. 6, lines 10-15);
- using an automated reply filter cooperatively in execution with the electronic message application, intercepting the received electronic message prior to storage thereof within an inbox of the electronic message application (col. 2, lines 49-56, col. 5, lines 4-11, and col. 7, lines 9-15);
- parsing information fields within the intercepted electronic message to determine that the electronic message is one of a contact information request message transmitted in dependence upon the new contact being added to the electronic contact information database and another message (col. 7, lines 31-45);

- generating a new electronic message including data indicative of current contact information for the new contact in reply to a determined contact information request message (col. 7, lines 46-55);
- providing all other messages for storage within the inbox (col. 2, lines 49-56 and col. 5, lines 4-11); and
- transmitting the generated new electronic message to the user system via the communication network (col. 3, lines 60-62 and col. 4, lines 24-32).

16. Regarding claim 10, in accordance with claim 9, Frisket discloses the method wherein the new electronic message is generated by the automated reply filter using contact information retrieved from a memory accessible to the automated reply filter (col. 6, line 63 – col. 7, line 3).

17. Regarding claim 11, in accordance with claim 10, Frisket discloses the method absent a step of storing the received electronic message within the inbox (col. 6, line 63 - col. 7, line 3).

18. Regarding claim 12, in accordance with claim 9, Frisket discloses the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving the transmitted new electronic message at the user system (col. 7, lines 4-5);
- automatically extracting from the received new electronic message the current contact information for the new contact (col. 7, lines 16-18 and 31-33); and,

- automatically storing the extracted current contact information in association with other contact information relating to the new contact within the contact database of the user system (col. 7, lines 31-39).

19. Regarding claim 13, Frisket discloses a method of adding a new contact to an electronic contact information database of a user system comprising the steps of:

- automatically transmitting an electronic message from the user system to a system of the new contact via a communication network and in dependence upon the new contact being added to the electronic contact information database, the electronic message being identified for interception by an automated reply filter in execution on the system of the new contact (col. 4, lines 8-20, specifically lines 12-14 and col. 6, lines 10-15);
- receiving at the user system a new electronic message generated by the automated reply filter in response to the electronic message and transmitted via the communication network, the new electronic message including current contact information retrieved from a memory accessible to the automated reply filter (col. 7, lines 16-18 and 31-33);
- automatically extracting from the received new electronic message the current contact information for the new contact (col. 7, lines 16-18 and 31-33); and,
- automatically storing the extracted current contact information in association with other contact information relating to the new contact within the electronic contact information database of the user system (col. 7, lines 31-39).

20. Regarding claim 14, Frisket discloses a method of adding a new contact to an electronic contact information database comprising the steps of:

- a) storing within an electronic contact information database of a user a new contact having a contact destination (Fig. 4, col. 3, lines 20-24, and col. 4, lines 3-7); and
- b) automatically sending a message requesting further contact information to the contact destination of the new contact (col. 4, lines 3-7, Fig. 7, col. 6, lines 53-56, and col. 8, lines 3-10).

21. Regarding claim 15, in accordance with claim 14, Frisket discloses the method comprising the step of:

- c) upon receiving a return message with further contact information from the new contact, automatically updating the contact information database with the further contact information (col. 4, lines 8-20, specifically lines 12-14 and col. 6, lines 10-15).

22. Regarding claim 16, in accordance with claim 15, Frisket discloses the method wherein the message is an electronic message and wherein step c) includes the step of:

- automatically extracting the further contact information from the received return electronic message (col. 7, lines 16-30, specifically lines 31-33).

23. Regarding claim 17, in accordance with claim 16, Frisket discloses the method wherein the user is a subscriber to a contact list update service and wherein the new contact is other than a subscriber to the contact list update service (col. 5, lines 50-65, specifically lines 54-59).

Conclusion

24. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Robertson (U.S. 6,269,369) discloses a network computer based personal contact manager wherein users maintain and update a set of user information which is stored in a relational database.

Nielsen (U.S. 6,405,243) discloses a method and system for updating email addresses.

Harari (U.S. 2002/0016857) discloses address contact information retrieval, synchronization, and storage system.

Collins (U.S. 5,963,951) discloses a computerized on-line dating service for searching and matching people.

Fleming, III (U.S. 6,249,805) discloses a method and system for filtering unauthorized electronic mail messages.

Schroeder et al. (U.S. 6,760,727) discloses a system for customer contact information management.

Cameron et al. (U.S. 5,737,726) disclose a customer contact management system.

Bilbrey et al. (U.S. 2002/0103932) disclose a system and process for updating electronic messaging accounts.

Pederson (U.S. 2002/0007400) discloses a profile responsive electronic message management system.

Buhrmann et al. (U.S. 5,933,778) discloses a method and apparatus for providing telecommunication services based on a subscriber profile updated by a personal information manager.

Buhrmann et al. (U.S. 5,903,845) disclose a personal information manager for updating a telecommunication subscriber profile.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin A. Ailes, whose telephone number is (571)272-3899. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Harvey can be reached at (571)272-3896. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-3906.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [benjamin.ailes@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file.

PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Benjamin Ailes
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2142



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